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FACT SHEET

Nevada DIRECT (NV DIRECT)

Secure Messaging for Electronic Health Information Exchange (HIE)

Health Information Exchange (HIE)

Verb: The secure electronic movement of health-related information between and among disparate organizations in accordance with nationally-recognized standards.

Noun: An organization that provides services which enable the secure electronic movement of health-related information between and among disparate organizations.

State HIE Cooperative Agreement Program (NV State Health IT Coordinator and Program Manager: Lynn O'Mara)

4-year awards to states and territories for the development and advancement of a statewide HIE infrastructure across health care systems, providers and payers that enables intra-state, inter-state and nationwide HIE by January 1, 2014. Nevada's DHHS was awarded a \$6,133,426 cooperative agreement. Program priorities are e-Prescribing (eRx), receipt of structured lab data results, and sharing patient care summaries across unaffiliated organizations.

State Health IT Plan

Nevada's State Health Information Technology Strategic and Operational Plan (State Health IT Plan) is a State HIE program requirement. The State Health IT Plan, available online in its entirety at <http://dhhs.nv.gov/Hit.htm>, outlines how Nevada's State HIE program funds are being used toward the establishment of Nevada's statewide system for the electronic exchange of health information.

Nevada's statewide HIE System is now moving to implementation in accordance with NRS 439.581-595 and the State Health IT Plan. A phased approach is being used to implement HIE, with **Nevada DIRECT (NV DIRECT)** secure point-to-point messaging available in Spring 2013. More robust HIE services will be available in late 2013.

Nevada DIRECT (NV DIRECT)

NV DIRECT is a simple, secure, scalable, standards-based way for participants to send authenticated, encrypted health information directly to other, known trusted recipients via the Internet.

FACT SHEET
Nevada DIRECT (NV DIRECT)
(continued)

How NV DIRECT Works

NV DIRECT is a reliable and time-sensitive method for delivering and receiving patient health information, and the NV DIRECT web portal allows providers to send a message to another provider with a DIRECT address. Using a secure clinical messaging protocol, it acts much like email, allowing providers to type messages, attach patient summaries and images, and send the information to known DIRECT recipients using secure transaction standards. The provider receiving the electronic health information does not need to be in the same practice or health system or use the same EHR/EMR system.

NV DIRECT supports meeting Meaningful Use requirements for HIE when used to transport content exported from an EHR/EMR.

NV DIRECT Benefits

NV DIRECT enhances continuity of care across organizational boundaries (both within the state and across state borders). It can help to ensure that patient information is available at the time and point of care when needed, enhancing patient care through clinical decision support and care coordination.

NV DIRECT Technical Requirements

NV DIRECT does NOT require participants to purchase additional software or have an EHR/EMR. The only requirement is a connection to the Internet.

NV DIRECT Data Security

Patient health information is encrypted and securely routed to the intended recipient, eliminating the risk of information being compromised during the transmission. The NV DIRECT messaging service contains an audit log that tracks the sender, receiver, date and time of email transactions. NV DIRECT is HIPAA-compliant.

NV DIRECT Eligibility Requirements

A health care provider must have a physical Nevada address, be licensed in Nevada, have an Internet connection, sign the NV DIRECT Participant Agreement, and comply with applicable federal and state laws and all NV DIRECT policies.

NV DIRECT Service

Initially, NV DIRECT is being facilitated by DHHS and Orion Health. By Fall 2013, NV DIRECT will be part of the statewide HIE services operated and maintained by the non-profit Nevada Health Information Exchange (NHIE). More information about NV DIRECT and the NHIE is available online at: <http://dhhs.nv.gov/HIT.htm>